



California Public Utilities Commission

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ORA DIRECTOR UNANIMOUSLY CONFIRMED BY SENATE

SAN FRANCISCO, August 19, 2005 - The California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) announced that Dana Appling was confirmed yesterday as Director of the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) in a 35-0 State Senate vote.

"I would like to thank the Senate for their unanimous vote of support and reiterate my gratitude to Governor Schwarzenegger for the opportunity he has given me to lead ORA," said Ms. Appling, who was appointed ORA's Director by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on Aug. 30, 2004. "ORA has a wonderful team dedicated to protecting consumers and I will continue to improve and expand upon what we do every day to represent the interests of the state's ratepayers."

"Dana is a great asset to ORA and I applaud her confirmation," said PUC President Michael R. Peevey. "I wish her and her team continued success in their important role at the Commission."

"On behalf of everyone at the PUC, I congratulate Dana on her unanimous confirmation," said Steve Larson, Executive Director of the PUC. "I look forward to continuing our work together and wish her much success."

Prior to joining ORA, Ms. Appling served as chief counsel for WebGen Systems, Inc., an enterprise energy conservation and demand-side management start-up company headquartered in Cambridge, MA. From January 1989 to January 2002 she served as an attorney for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), the last eight years of which she was General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Directors. Prior to SMUD, Ms. Appling spent four years as a Deputy in the Office of the Legislative Counsel, attorneys for the California Legislature. After graduating from the University of San Diego Law School in 1982, she served for two years as a staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. She did her undergraduate work at Pomona College, Claremont University Center, receiving a B.A. degree in Government.

ORA is a division within the PUC, statutorily mandated to represent the interests and advocate on behalf of ratepayers of regulated public utilities. ORA comprises accountants, analysts, attorneys, economists, and engineers. ORA conducts in-depth, focused investigations covering a broad range of regulatory issues, including the auditing and monitoring regulated utility activities in specific areas.

ORA's website is at <http://www.ora.ca.gov/>.

For more information on the PUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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